Department of State **TELEGR**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

AN: D750236-1250

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 04120 090949Z

51
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 PM-03 ERDA-05 ACDA-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-03

FEAE-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 /076 W

105860

R 090756Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5987
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY MANILA
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE 5/21/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TAIPEI 4120

EO 11652 NA
TAGS MNUC PARM TW
SUBJCT: MORE DENIALS THAT ROC IS DEVELOPING NUCLEAR WEAPONS
REF TAIPEI 4041

1. CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY JULY 8 CARRIED HSU HSIEN-HSIU'S DENIAL THAT ROC IS DEVELOPING NUCLEAR WEAPONS (REFTEL) AND ALSO A SIMILAR STATEMENT BY MAJOR GENERAL LI CHANG-HAO (2621/7022/3185), MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SPOKESMAN. LI REPORTEDLY SAID, "WE DON'T HAVE ANY PLANS TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR WEAPONS. ALL NUCLEAR RESEARCH PROJECTS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE BEING CARRIED OUT FOR ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH PURPOSES."

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 04120 090949Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2. A REPORT SIMILAR TO CNA STORY WAS CARRIED BY ALL CHINESE LANGUAGE PRESS JULY 8.
3. JULY 8 ENGLISH LANGUAGE CHINA POST COVERED NUCLEAR FRONT WITH HSU AND LI'S COMMENTS AND ADDED A STATEMENT FROM WANG SHEN-AN, SPOKESMAN FOR THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION OF THE EXECUTIVE YUAN.

4. ON JULY 9 CHINESE LANGUAGE PAPERS CARRIED A SECOND DENIAL BY HSU HSIEN-HSIU WHO NOTED THIS TIME THAT THE ROC'S NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WAS ALWAYS OPEN AND SUBJECT TO CONSTANT INSPECTION BY THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY. HE SAID THAT IAEA SENDS INSPECTORS TO TAIWAN TWICE A YEAR AND IT WAS SATISFIED THAT THE ROC IS NOT DEVELOPING NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

5. ENGLISH LANGUAGE CHINA NEWS CHIMED IN JULY 9 WITH AN EDITORIAL DENYING THAT THE GROC IS DEVELOPING NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND SUGGESTED THAT "US INTELLIGENCE SOURCES" COULD HAVE BEEN TIME INC.'S FERTILE IMAGINATION. ALTHOUGH THE EDITORIAL
SAYS THE ROC WOULD BE AN "UTTER FOOL" TO
BREAK ITS WORD WITH THE US AND BUILD A BOMB, IT GOES ON TO SUGGEST THAT THE ROC SHOULD DEVELOP THE CAPABILITY TO BUILD NUCLEAR WEAPONS. NOTING THAT TAIWAN DEPENDS ON THE AMERICAN NUCLEAR UMBRELLA IT SAYS, "IF THAT UMBREALLA IS WITHDRAWN, WE BECOME FREE AGENTS," AND ASKS "DON'T WE THEN HAVE THE RIGHT TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND USE THAT IF THAT IS ESSENTIAL TO SURVIVAL?"

6. COMMENT: THE CHINA NEWS HAS BEEN THE ONLY MEDIA SOURCE TO SUGGEST THE ROC MIGHT DEVELOP NUCLEAR WEAPONS.
UNGER